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AGRICULTURAL LIBRARIES INFORMATION NOTES

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MEXICO'S INIREB

by Lorrain Giddings

The Instituto Nacional de Investigaciones sobre Recursos Bióticos or the National Research Institute for Biological Resources of Mexico (INIREB) is one of a number of productive research institutes in Latin America. It is located in the city of Xalapa (or Jalapa, pronounced Ha-LA-pa) in the mountains between Mexico City and the city of Veracruz on the coast. This is a lovely non-touristy area of Mexico. With nearly daily rains it is green year round; and at an intermediate elevation in the mountains it is not cold like high Mexico City, nor hot like coastal Veracruz. It never gets cold enough to snow, but it also does not get as hot as 90 degrees F; its year-round average temperature is a comfortable 64 degrees, compared to Washington's 57 degrees.

INIREB was founded in 1975 and became a national institute in 1979. It focuses on protecting the tropical plant resources of Mexico. The tropical areas of Mexico are under the same pressures as the Amazon basin: cut the forests, plant some basic crops, and a few years later, convert to cattle. Dr. Arturo Gomez-Pompa, a leading botanist of Mexico,

founded INIREB; he is a vigorous proponent of alternate solutions to this popular way of irreversibly destroying the humid tropical forests. INIREB brought many kinds of specialists to bear on this problem, from botanists and climatologists to anthropologists, with computer model builders and remote sensing specialists, supported by chemists, computer specialists, and many others. Since education was always high in its priorities, it has always included a varied academic program, and it grants masters degrees in management of biological resources.

With everybody, the institute has about 400 employees and at most a dozen students, all of whom are integrated into the research programs of the institute. It publishes one scientific journal, *Biótica*, and several other series of books and serials at all levels, from scientific and technical through pamphlets more suited to educating school children in conservation. It manages a large botanical garden in Xalapa and a small one in San Cristobal in the state of Chiapas, and it has small research centers in Merida, state of Yucatan, and in San Cristobal. It also has a zoological conservation program in Chiapas.

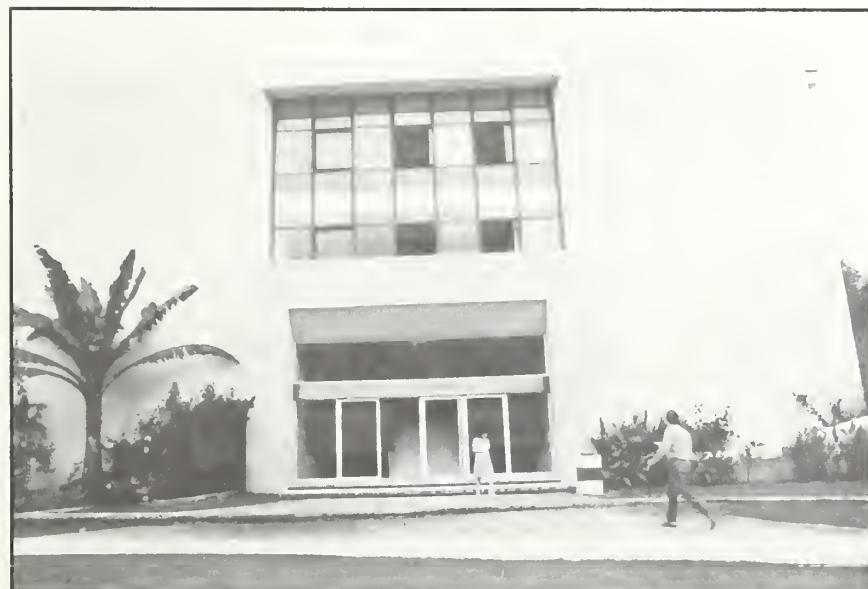


photo: INIREB

The main administration and research building at INIREB, which also houses the library.

Programs of INIREB

INIREB has had a diversified research program since its very beginning. Present activities are dictated by the availability of funds and personnel, and planning on the basis of national priorities. Listed below are some of the current research departments and their past and present activities:

Flora de México: The first Department of INIREB is called "Flora of Mexico." It incorporated the "Flora of Veracruz" project founded in 1967, and has studied the flora of several other states besides that of the state of Veracruz. Among its research areas are programs in mycology, biosystematics, taxonomy, pollen studies, pre-Spanish agriculture, bioclimatology,

and plant geography. Research is supported by computer assisted identification of organisms and a herbarium. This department pioneered in the area of developing computer programs for managing biological and floral data--including variable fields--which have been compatible with library uses.

Conservación de Recursos Bióticos: among the programs for conservation of biological resources are the conservation of coastal wetlands, regeneration of tropical humid rainforest, management of forests, especially the rainforests, and the management of biological reserve areas, including all types of ecosystems from that of deserts to relic temperate vegetation stranded on mountains.

Contaminación Ambiental: programs related to environmental contamination especially target chemical pollution, primarily of pesticides, in foods; this includes trace analysis of pesticides in human tissues. Research has found higher amounts of pesticides in foods in Mexican markets than in those of the U.S. All tested persons in Mexico have traces of various pesticides in their body fat. Among the objectives of this program are to publicize the dangers of pesticides, especially to workers through extension work.

Desarrollo Agroindustrial de Recursos Bióticos: programs for agroindustrial development of biological resources include the treatment of agroindustrial wastes, especially animal manures, for other uses and to eliminate contamination in the water supply; the development of essential oils including cedar, cardamon, lemongrass, curcuma, casias, etc.; and research on generating energy from biological wastes.

Fauna de México: one of the principal programs of this Department relates to ornithology, especially of the tropical rain forest of the south of Mexico: a major project is the captive breeding and release of the horned guan, an endangered species; projects with other bird species are also being developed; there are also projects with mammals, e.g., jaguar; reptiles, e.g., crocodiles, especially; and studies of native uses of animals, e.g., peccary.

Investigación y Diagnóstico Regional: regional research and analysis programs are concerned with physical parameters of the environment, development of systems for better use of land, and remote sensing.

Laboratorio de Ciencia y Tecnología de la Madera: the wood science and technology programs identify the physical properties of Mexican tropical woods, develop the technology necessary for their use in construction, furniture and musical instrument manufacture, and study wood preservation--especially termite control.

Manejo y Propagación de Recursos Bióticos: programs for the management and propagation of biological resources are carried out primarily at the botanical garden; there is also a seed bank.

Recursos Bióticos de la Península de Yucatán: among



photo: INIREB

The Herbarium at INIREB.

the programs concerned with the biological resources of the Yucatan peninsula are the study of the Flora of the Yucatan, study of the uses of the plants, including traditional uses of the natives, and identification of the Mayan names of plants.

Formación de Recursos Humanos: the education program covers a range from presenting continuing education in the form of short courses for the campesinos to the granting of graduate degrees. Although INIREB has the authority to grant the Ph.D., so far the highest degree it has granted is the M.S. in theoretical and practical ecology and biological resources. About 6 degrees are granted per year. Students must work in a department with a researcher, who may have several areas of responsibility. Although most students are Mexican, there have been a few from the U.S. and Central and South American countries. Courses for campesinos include practical subjects such as beekeeping, developing and maintaining botanical gardens, etc.

Publications Program: the scientific publications of INIREB include *Biótica*, a general science journal on the biological resources of Mexico; *Flora de Veracruz*, plant studies issued in fascicles periodically; *Etnoflora Yucatanense*, plant studies issued in fascicles; *La Madera y su Uso en la Construcción* and *Notas Técnicas*, two series on wood studies on specific subjects at the technical or engineering level; an intermediate level series, *Notas Didácticas del Jardín Botánico*, provides educational materials and practical notebooks for high school or continuing education in botanical subjects;



photo: INIREB

A view of the Botanical Gardens at the National Research Institute for Biological Resources of Mexico in Xalapa, state of Veracruz.

and three popular level series provide materials in all of INIREB's subject areas--*INIREB-Informa*; *Cuadernos de Divulgación INIREB*, also on general biological subjects; and *Serie Tú y el Ambiente*, on environmental subjects. INIREB also publishes a variety of books, including, for example, the classical works of Mosiño, a 19th Century Mexican botanist; a treatise on regeneration of humid rainforests; medicinal plants of Veracruz and also of Yucatan; a work on the growth rate of tropical trees; and *Mexico from Space*, a work featuring remote sensing.

INIREB Library

A specialized research library plays a central role in successful research institutes of this sort. INIREB's library, at 30,000 volumes including serials, has developed into the most comprehensive library in botany and related fields in Mexico outside of Mexico City, probably second only to the National University (UNAM) library. In common with the UNAM library, it has computerized all information on its holdings, still very rare in Mexico; this was done locally with its own programs rather than with purchased or contracted programs, and in addition to its books the data base includes its pamphlets, reports, reprints, and other items, mostly from individual researcher's donated libraries. The library is completely cataloged and uses the Library of Congress system. It is also responsible for distributing INIREB's publications, and in fact, obtains most new serials on the basis of exchange since there are now few funds available for purchases. It has furnished the institute's publications to NAL since its founding.

Because of the great shortage of trained librarians when it was founded, the library has always been in the hands of professional biologists rather than librarians (in Mexico there is little tradition of specialists in other disciplines becoming librarians as in the U.S.). Three of them made the decision to specialize in library sciences as a career and learned, as best they could from reading and short courses, the various arts of modern librarians. All three, with two assistants, run the INIREB library at this time. All three have degrees in biology and have published papers on their research, but none have time these days for biology: their library work occupies all their time. Two of the three librarians are visiting NAL in spring 1988 as interns.

INIREB LIBRARIANS INTERN AT NAL

NAL is hosting two young professionals from Mexico this year as interns, Dulce Salmones and Felisa Herrador, who, along with Alma Aguilar, the director, are librarians in the Instituto Nacional de Investigaciones sobre Recursos Bióticos (INIREB). The three, working together, are responsible for all the activities of the INIREB research library, the largest in its field outside of Mexico City, and one of the very few in Mexico that use computers on a routine basis. Ms. Salmones and Ms. Herrador are spending about ten weeks each becoming familiar with NAL's various activities. Dulce Salmones arrived at the National Agricultural Library on February 16 and stayed through the first week of May. Felisa Herrador arrived on May 2, and will stay through mid-July.



photo: D. Starr
DULCE SALMONES

Dulce Salmones

Dulce Maria Salmones studied biology in the University of Veracruz and received her degree in 1985. She has done research on fungi, and has published two articles on growing edible mushrooms on different materials that are normally discarded and left to cause environmental problems. In addition to representing the

INIREB library, particularly in demonstrations of its use of computers, Ms. Salmones has served as a representative of INIREB to REPIDISCA, the Panamerican network on information and documentation in sanitary engineering and environmental sciences, a bibliographic data base program. Within INIREB's library she specializes in cataloging and

other technical processes, and shares responsibility for the consultation of databases, principally AGRICOLA. For her personal plans, Ms. Salmones says that she would like to get her M.S. degree in Library Science some time in the future.

Felisa Herrador

Felisa Herrador also received her degree in biology from the University of Veracruz in 1985. In line with INIREB's emphasis on conservation, she has done research on converting sugar cane wastes to methane gas, both for detoxifying them and for small-scale energy production, and she has taken post-graduate courses in biology. She has represented the library in many meetings. In INIREB's library she is reference librarian, and is famous



photo: D. Starr
FELISA HERRADOR

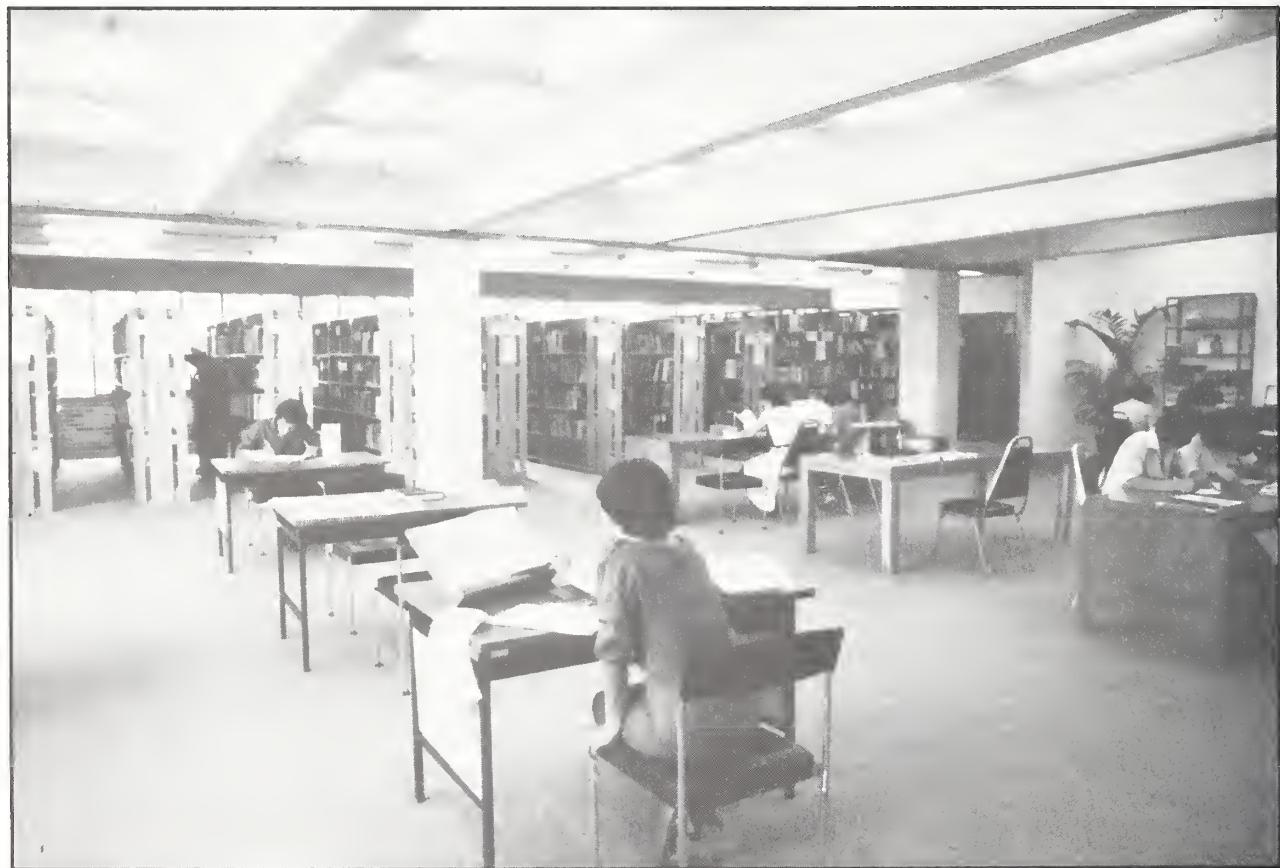


photo: INIREB

The INIREB Library.

for knowing the location of every book (*well almost every book*) in the library. She shares many other tasks in the library, especially responsibility for database consultations, particularly using AGRICOLA.

Alma Aguilar, the director of the INIREB library, is a biology graduate of the University of Veracruz. As a biologist she has performed applied research on biogas production from animal wastes, and she has participated in studies leading to the establishment of biosphere reserves. She has also been a part-time secondary school teacher. She has been director of the INIREB library since 1983, and now finds her time occupied with administrative matters. Her visit to NAL is not yet scheduled.

All three librarians have been looking for ways to broaden their perspectives, and all three planned to underwrite their own expenses to come to NAL; since airfare is several months wages for them, this shows their strong desire to learn more about their profession. Responding in kind, NAL has accepted them, one by one, as interns.



LORRAIN GIDDINGS

photo: D. Starr

Lorrain Giddings

Lorrain Giddings, the author of these articles on INIREB and its staff, is a physical chemist by training; he has been fascinated with libraries since he was a child. During his undergraduate and graduate years of college he worked as a library assistant. After completing his doctorate and postdoctoral studies in physical chemistry, he went to the Peace Corps and

taught chemistry and math and founded a library in the University of Sucre, Bolivia.

After returning to the U.S. he worked with NASA, first in the Lunar Receiving Laboratory and afterwards in remote sensing (studies of the earth from satellites). Since 1979 he has been a remote sensing researcher at the National Research Institute for Biological Resources (INIREB) in Xalapa, Mexico, where he was also largely responsible for development of its library and personally programmed the computer programs which run it.

He and his wife, Margarita Soto de Giddings, a researcher in bioclimatology and plant geography in INIREB's department on the Flora of Mexico, are presently on sabbatical leave in the Washington area, he at NASA-Goddard, and she making use of NAL and other libraries.



BELIZE CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

The Belize Center for Environmental Studies, registered as a non-profit company under Chapter 206 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition, 1980, is an autonomous, non-government institution established to promote the rational, sustainable use of Belize's natural resources.

The objectives of the Center are to:

- facilitate awareness among Belizeans for the need for wise and judicious management of natural and cultural resources.
- compile a base of information (including collection, storage, synthesis, and dissemination) relevant to the state of the environment, natural resources, and the development process.
- create a forum to enable those involved in development, conservation, education and/or research to come together to explore ideas and opportunities of mutual interest.
- offer support, services, facilities and technical assistance to other institutions, organizations and individuals engaged in research, education, training and the development process.

In pursuit of these objectives, the Center is:

- collecting, cataloging, and storing information concerning Belize; cataloging publications in private libraries; producing bibliographies.
- recruiting resource people from a wide range of disciplines; offering consulting services.
- providing institutional support, facilities, and services to other nongovernmental institutions, voluntary organizations, and independent scholars.
- preparing publications and reports, both in house and under contract, about various aspects of the environment, health, resources, and the development process.
- designing programs which will help to fill gaps in the available data and knowledge of Belize.

For more information, contact the Belize Center for Environmental Studies, P.O. Box 785, 55 Eve Street, Belize City, Belize, C.A.



At the farewell party for her, Dulce Maria Salmones receives the best wishes of NAL Director, Joseph H. Howard.

PRACTICUM AT NAL

The National Agricultural Library announces a program for students desiring to serve a Practicum in library or information sciences. The following are examples of kinds of assignments available in this program.

- **Information Specialists** in agricultural and related subject areas may: develop information products; develop expert systems; do collection evaluations; develop subject user guides; do general reference work; help with outreach activities; etc.
- **Librarians** with agricultural and related subject backgrounds may: participate in any of the technical services functions of NAL including acquisitions, gift and exchange, indexing, cataloging, and serials control; contribute to the AGRICOLA data base; participate in collection development activities; apply knowledge of foreign languages in the technical services areas; participate in a variety of public services, including those listed above for information specialists, etc.
- **Computer Specialists** may: participate in preparing or processing AGRICOLA tapes; assist in implementation of the new integrated library system; develop subject file profiles; prepare search specifications for new CD-ROM products; and participate in the evaluation of new optical scanning and storage techniques.

The above statements identify sample areas for Practicum assignments at NAL. The specific assignment will depend on a student's background, interests, and availability.

Qualifications

Any library science, information science, or computer science graduate students who have agricultural and related subject backgrounds or library experience will be considered for an NAL-Practicum. Students will need to provide their own funding.

Application

Submit 1) an application statement describing the conditions of availability, i.e., time when available, for how long, any special conditions, relationship to degree program, and 2) resume of training and experience.

Send the application statement and resume to:

Joseph H. Howard, Director
National Agricultural Library, Room 200
10301 Baltimore Boulevard
Beltsville, Maryland 20705

Telephone: (301) 344-4248.

--Thomas D. Neis

NAL CAN NOW RECEIVE TTY OR TDD CALLS

The Lending Branch of the National Agricultural Library has recently acquired a TTY (Teletypewriter) or TDD (Telecommunication device for the deaf), in order to better serve hearing impaired employees and patrons. To make TTY calls, a patron simply uses his or her own TTY to call the NAL. All divisions of the library may be accessed by call-

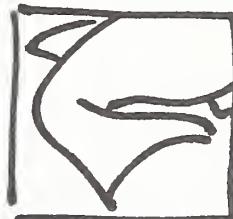
ing the general information number (301) 344-3755. Please allow time for operators to recognize the call and connect the TTY.

For additional information contact:

Lending Branch, Room 101
National Agricultural Library
10301 Baltimore Boulevard
Beltsville, Maryland 20705

Or call 344-4110.

--Janet Wright



Aquaculture

AIC RECEIVES FUNDS

The Aquaculture Information Center (AIC) staff is pleased to announce it has received funds from the Office of Aquaculture, Cooperative State Research Service (CSRS), USDA. These funds will support the hiring of additional staff for the Center through fiscal year 1988. In 1985 Congress designated NAL as the national resource for aquaculture literature and information; however, additional funding was not provided for this important program. NAL redirected a portion of its own funding to create the Aquaculture Information Center and carry out its responsibility; the AIC has received funds from other sources for specialized projects.

The Center has been able to maintain its services and specialized projects to the aquaculture community despite an increase in the volume of inquiries of more than 875% over the past few years. The staff appreciates the moral support from patrons, fellow librarians, extension specialists, and federal agencies. Many of these groups have played major roles in supporting special projects undertaken by the center by offering their time, gift publications, and funding.

Future plans include the upgrading of an "expert advisory system on aquaculture," creation of CD-ROM disks containing full text and images of selected aquaculture publications, and improved networking with libraries, information specialists, the five established Regional Aquaculture Centers around the Nation, and private industry. The AIC also plans to produce specialized bibliographies and information products that will provide patrons the tools needed to make knowledgeable decisions in aquaculture. The AIC welcomes suggestions of topics for future publications.

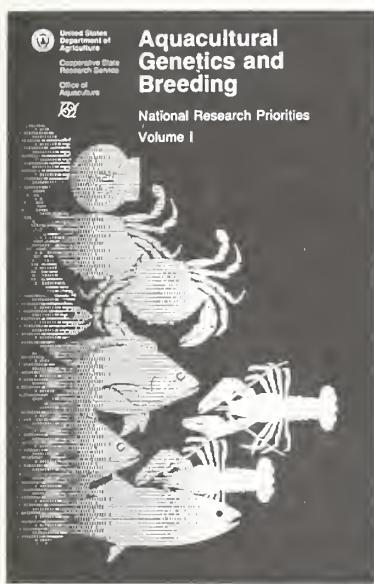
Please direct any questions or recommendations regarding the Center to:

Deborah Hanfman, AIC Coordinator
National Agricultural Library, Room 304
10301 Baltimore Boulevard
Beltsville, MD 20705

Or call (301) 344-3704.



NEW PUBLICATION ON AQUACULTURAL GENETICS & BREEDING AVAILABLE



Needs and Funding; and last, Research Needs and Priorities. Twenty-five priorities are identified in the last chapter and in Volume II, the discussions of these priorities are greatly expanded. Volume II also contains seven Appendices. The volumes are different physical sizes: Volume I, about 5.3 x 8.5 inches, xxii, 56pp; Volume II, about 8.5 x 11 inches, xv, 61pp.

These publications are currently available for distribution at no cost from the Aquaculture Information Center at NAL. Interested individuals may request copies by writing to the Center at the following address:

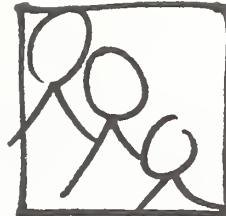
*Aquaculture Information Center
National Agricultural Library
Room 304; ATTN: AQUAC.
GENETICS
Beltsville, MD 20705*

(Please include a self-addressed mailing label with your request.)

--Deborah Hanfman

photo: J. Swab

In the photo Robyn Frank (2nd from right), Head, Information Centers Branch, and Idalia Acosta (right), Head, Cataloging Branch, speak to the group of State Extension specialists regarding NAL acquisition, cataloging, and servicing of 4-H and State Extension publications. Robyn Frank is the coordinator of NAL's part of the 4hprk project.



Family

4-H SPECIALISTS VISIT; 4hprk AT NAL

On March 23, 1988, NAL hosted a visit of 75 State 4-H Extension specialists from all over the country. In the one-day visit NAL staff provided orientations, new technology demonstrations, and AGRICOLA training sessions. This event was a part of a one-week National Staff Development Workshop sponsored by Extension on "The Research and Knowledge Base for Strengthening 4-H Youth Programs." The event marked a milestone of the 4-H Professional Research and Knowledge project (4hprk), a national venture of Extension and NAL.

Over the past two years, Mississippi State University Extension personnel have been identifying the literature representing the research base of the 4-H program. In a similar manner, Ohio State University Extension personnel have been working on the knowledge base for the program. Robyn Frank, Head, Information Centers Branch, represented NAL on the advisory committee.

The materials not already in AGRICOLA are being entered into the AGRICOLA database and have been assigned identifiers representing the five major areas of coverage: 4hprk communication, 4hprk educational design, 4hprk youth development, 4hprk youth program management, and 4hprk volunteerism.

The National Association of Extension 4-H Agents has formed a 4hprk committee of volunteers who will continue the project by writing abstracts for the

(See 4-H, page 8, col. 1)





photo: J. Swab

Susan Whitmore (standing left), Head, D.C. Reference Center, with the assistance of Kate Hayes (standing center), Coordinator of the Family Information Center, provides one of several intensive, abbreviated AGRICOLA training sessions to the 4-H specialists so that they can access the 4hprk materials.



(4-H, from p. 7)

materials they want in the database. NAL will continue to enter the abstracts into the AGRICOLA database and will thus continue to expand the scope of AGRICOLA to include youth issues.

--Robyn Frank



Members of the planning committee and speakers at the Family Seminar (L-R): Dr. Billie Frazier, Chairperson, Dr. Bonnie Tyler, Vivian Salters, Mary Ellen Newman, Kate Hayes (Coordinator, Family Information Center), Ava Baker, Jacqueline Gray, Carl Herbert, guest speaker, and Lois Smith. Photo: J. Swab.



Small group discussions in the Family Seminar focused on such topics as stepparenting of teens, parent education programs for PTA groups, and coping with teens. Bonnie Birker (2nd from left), Director of the Family Independence Program, discusses a case management approach to helping families with teenagers. Photo: J. Swab.

FAMILY SEMINAR

"Strengthening Family Skills: A Commitment to Teens" was the focus of a two-day seminar held at NAL on March 30 and 31, 1988. Sponsored by the Maryland Cooperative Extension Service for home economics and 4-H agents, the workshops concentrated on communication skills, creative problem solving, teen sexuality, stress management, and child abuse prevention. The training culminated with the viewing of the National (Extension Service) Initiatives Video Conference on Building Human Capital.

Conference attendees also had the opportunity to view demonstrations of AGRICOLA, the CD-ROM version as well as online. Holly Irving, Technical Information Specialist, demonstrated FNICAID (Food and Nutrition Information Center Artificial Intelligence Demo), an advisory system which she developed.

--Kathleen Hayes



NAL AT ALA

AGRICULTURAL LIBRARIES INFORMATION NETWORK

At the American Library Association (ALA) Meeting in New Orleans, LA, July 9-14, 1988, the National Agricultural Library will be hosting a variety of activities. The Agricultural Libraries Information Network Meeting (the traditional general meeting sponsored by NAL and formerly called the NAL/Land-Grant and Field Libraries Meeting) will be held on Tuesday afternoon, July 12, from 2:00-5:30 p.m., in the Terrace Room of the Westin Canal Place Hotel. All interested persons are invited to attend the general network meeting and the special meetings following it.

NAL staff will present updates on current projects and activities, and participants will have the opportunity to summarize their own projects or to ask questions. The following is a tentative agenda for the meeting:

2:00-3:30

- Introduction of newly elected Officers, who will speak to the attendees.
- Network Participant Reports
- NAL Progress Reports
 - Budget '89 and '90
 - Electronic Bulletin Board
 - Information Centers
 - Laser Disc II
 - AGRICOLearn
 - World List of Agricultural Serials/World List of Poultry Serials
 - Preservation Study
 - ISIS

3:30-4:30

- National Agricultural Text Digitizing Project Demonstration -- Nancy Eaton and Judi Zidar. The aquaculture disk will be demonstrated.

4:30-5:00

- NAL/Land-Grant State Agricultural Publications Project -- Sarah Thomas and Ellie Mathews report; analysis of the program and the resulting changes and implementation.

5:00-5:30

- Regional Document Delivery Service -- Veronica LeFebvre and Janet Wright; among topics of discussion may be copyright policy, revision of the AD-245 form, and processing procedures throughout RDDS.

AQUACULTURE LIBRARY NETWORK; DEMONSTRATION OF AQUACULTURE DISK OF THE TEXT-DIGITIZING PROJECT

The Aquaculture Library Network Meeting will be held on July 12, 1988, in the Conde Room of La Meridien Hotel, New Orleans, from 10:30-11:00 a.m. for general business on aquaculture networking activities.

Prior to the Network Meeting from 9:00-10:30 a.m., staff will demonstrate the optical retrieval system used for the "National Agricultural Text Digitizing Project" in the same room. Aquaculture literature is a principal subject in the

text-digitizing pilot study at present, and the aquaculture disk will be demonstrated.

Aquaculture Library Network members and representatives from Land-Grant Libraries are invited to attend the demonstrations as well as the network meeting.

NAL PRESENTATIONS AT OTHER MEETINGS

RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Patricia John, Coordinator of the Rural Information Center, will speak at the PLA-Small & Medium-Sized Library Section Rural Library Services Committee meeting on Tuesday, July 12, 9:00-11:00 (place to be announced in final program). She will be speaking in place of Joseph H. Howard in the session on "Doing Rural Economic Development: Libraries, Extension Services, and the National Agricultural Library in Partnership."

EXPERT SYSTEMS PRECONFERENCE: Samuel T. Waters, Associate Director of NAL, will be the primary speaker for the 1988 Library and Information Technology Association (LITA) Preconference entitled *Planning the Development of a Library Expert System*, which will be held all day Friday, July 8, at the Sheraton Hotel, New Orleans. Mr. Waters will lead the morning program with an "Introduction To and Overview Of Expert Systems." He will present various actual experiences using "1st Class" in the software portion of the program, and will also be participating in panel discussions, the wrap-up session, and demonstrations.

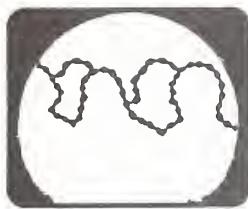
NAL EXHIBIT BOOTH

NAL will have an exhibit booth at the New Orleans Convention Center, July 9-12. It will open at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 9, and close at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 12. In addition to providing information on the Library's collections and services, NAL staff will demonstrate the Electronic Bulletin Board System; FNICAID, an expert advisory system on food and nutrition; and the AGRICOLA database.

1989 OBERLY AWARD NOMINATIONS

Nominations are sought for the 1989 Oberly Award for bibliographic excellence in the agricultural or related sciences. To be eligible, a bibliography must have been published in 1987 or 1988, and at least one author, editor, or compiler must be a U.S. citizen. Bibliographies will be judged on usefulness, scope, accuracy, format, explanatory features, and indexing methods. The award is administered by the Science and Technology Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries Division of the American Library Association. It will be presented at the 1989 annual meeting of the American Library Association in Dallas, Texas. Nominations in the form of a letter, including, if possible, a copy of the bibliography, should be sent by January 1, 1989, to: Carolyn L. Warmann, Chair, Oberly Award Committee, Reference Department, Carol Newman Library, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA 14061.





STAFF UPDATE

CHEN COMPLETES YEAR OF WORK AT NAL

Mr. Chen Quibo, Deputy Director of the Techno-Scientific Information Institute of the South China Academy of Tropical Crops (SCATC) in Hainan Province, completed a year as a visiting scholar at NAL on May 9, 1988. Since his arrival in April 1987, he has worked on a variety of projects for both NAL and his home Institute. He has been studying NAL's methods and practices in preparation for automating parts of the SCATC Library and the Information Institute and making changes in their operations. Upon returning home Mr. Chen anticipates assuming a second position, that of Chief of the Foreign Affairs Division of the Academy, as well as taking on a variety of additional duties. Among his new duties will be planning automation, and working to establish cooperation between SCATC and NAL. This cooperation will include document delivery services and exchange of publications. Mr. Chen plans to provide hard-to-get Chinese journals to NAL as part of the exchange arrangement. He will also give lectures and write papers on his experiences at NAL and on the provision of services.

At NAL Mr. Chen participated in all of NAL's activities: Cataloging, Indexing and other Technical Services Division functions; Lending, Special Collections, and other Public

Services Division functions; and daily operations in the Information Systems Division, especially Current Awareness Literature Service (CALS) system. He did an evaluation study of NAL's holdings of Chinese agricultural publications and compiled a bibliography of them. He did a comparative study of tropical agricultural subjects in AGRICOLA,

AGRIS, and CAB databases (to be published by NAL or the Associates), in which he found a maximum of 20% overlap between AGRICOLA and CAB within seven samples, and even less between AGRICOLA and AGRIS. He is writing a literature review on tropical nuts, to be published in China, and he wishes to compile a bibliography on tropical agriculture to use for collection development at his library (using the three databases available on DIALOG from Hong Kong).

Mr. Chen is a native of Guangdong Province in China where he graduated from the South China Teachers University in 1976. His major studies were in English, agriculture, and agricultural information. He began working at his present institute in 1976 as a translator (English and French scientific papers into Chinese) and editor, became leader of the translation group in 1981, and Deputy Director in 1985. The institute is responsible for publishing and document control. The principal publication is the *Chinese Journal of Tropical Crops*. The Institute is also responsible for the Academy's collection of scientific literature, the Archives of the Academy, information retrieval and dissemination, translation and interpretation, as well as videotaping, microfilming, and xeroxing.



photo: D. Starr

CHEN QUIBO



NAL Director Joseph H. Howard (2nd from right) presents gifts to Mr. Chen Quibo (center) and Ms. Dulce Maria Salmones (2nd from left) at the farewell party for the two visitors on April 25th, about a week before their departures for their homes in China and Mexico.

ROSE BROOME



photo: D. Starr

ROSE BROOME

The NAL staff whose tenure goes back to the period 1979-85 were recently very happy to welcome back a friend, Rose Broome, who was then a Senior Examiner in USDA's Plant Variety Protection Office (PVPO), which has its offices in the NAL Building. Dr. Broome assumed the position of Computer Systems Analyst in NAL's Library Automation Branch, Information Systems Division, on March 28. In this position she is responsible for technical operation of the Alpha-Micro computer and keeping projects on it going, including the technical computer side of the World List of Agricultural Serials, the World List of Poultry Serials, the Nursery and Seed Trade Catalog database, the Translations database, and others, some of which she initiated or helped with while still employed at the PVPO.

In the interim period Dr. Broome was the East Coast Manager of Technical Services, Cuadra Associates, Inc., Washington, DC (1985-86), and Faculty Research Associate, Department of Botany, University of Maryland (1986 to the present). She has also held a variety of curatorships, research and teaching positions prior to 1979 at the Herbarium and the Department of Botany, University of Maryland; Duke University; University of South Florida; and University of Miami.

Dr. Broome is very active in the field of botany in which she holds three degrees: Ph.D. from Duke University, 1974; M.S. from the University of South Florida, 1968; and B.S. from the University of Miami, 1965. She is the author or co-author of many botanical publications or articles in refereed journals, books, symposia, and meetings, and has made a number of presentations at symposia and meetings. Among the principal recent papers is a series of five on the plants of Colonial Maryland, researched in the Linnean collection at the British Museum and other British and American museums, and published in *Huntia*, 1986.

Dr. Broome has been the recipient of numerous contracts, grants, and awards. She is active in national, international, and local botanical associations and societies, and has held offices in the American Society of Plant Taxonomists, and the Maryland Chapter of the Society of Sigma Xi. She has participated in several plant exploration and collecting expeditions in Mexico, Guatemala, and Venezuela (1969-

81); on several occasions has done research at the principal botanical museum collections, botanical gardens, and societies in England and Scotland (1979-87); and has participated in various public or community service projects relating to the identification of plants, including endangered or threatened species, for various federal and state agencies (1969-present).

Dr. Broome is married to Dr. James L. Reveal, who is a Professor of Botany at the University of Maryland, and a co-author of a number of their publications. When not involved in her many professional activities, Rose Broome enjoys dancing, gardening, traveling, and horseback riding.

CAROL KOPOLOW

Carol Kopolow joined the NAL Reference staff on April 11, 1988. A 1979 graduate of the Catholic University library school, she specialized in law librarianship while earning her M.S.L.S. She is also a graduate of Webster University in Webster Groves, Missouri, where she earned her B.A. in Psychology in 1975.

Ms. Kopolow was a librarian for several private law firms in Washington, DC, prior to 1984, when she entered the University of Maryland to work on a B.S. in Horticulture. When she received her degree in December 1987, she was recognized as the outstanding graduating senior in horticulture.

Ms. Kopolow has put her interest in gardening and horticulture to use as a volunteer at the U.S. National Arboretum. There she worked in the Fern Valley, where one of her projects was assisting the Washington chapter of the Daffodil Society replant the many thousands of bulbs in hundreds of cultivars. In her own garden Ms. Kopolow grows vegetables and flowers, including perennials from seed. One of her favorite leisure activities is walking with her two dogs, an Irish terrier and a mutt.



photo: D. Starr

CAROL KOPOLOW

THE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY AND THE BELTSVILLE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER COSPONSOR 1988 BLACK HISTORY PROGRAMS

KAN KOURAN PERFORMANCE

On Wednesday, March 2, 1988, the National Agricultural Library and the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) cosponsored the "Kan Kouran" West African Dance Company in a program for Black History Month. "Kan Kouran" presented dances based on harvest of the bean crop as part of the overall theme, "Expressions of Traditional Culture." Members of the audience were invited to participate in the dancing. Ms. Tangita Adams of the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) was Mistress of Ceremonies. Mr. Joseph H. Howard, Director of NAL, opened the program with the "Welcome," and Dr. Waldemar Klassen, Beltsville Area Director of ARS, made the "Closing



photo: Audrey Brown

Part of the audience in the BARC auditorium enjoying the Kan Kouran dancers. Members of the program committee are in costume at front left; Mr. Howard and Dr. Klassen are front right.



photos, above and below: Audrey Brown

The Kan Kouran dancers in performance (above), and with members of the audience participating (below).



Remarks." Mr. Assane Konte, Director of Kan Kouran, discussed the dances and presented traditional African clothing with the Beltsville Area Black History Program Committee serving as models. Dr. Aboko-Cole, Director of Pre-Profes-



photo: D. Starr

Ms. Shelly Anderson, preparing to sing at the program on April 13.



photo: D. Starr

Dr. Ivan Van Sertima speaking on the subject, "Blacks in Science."



photo courtesy of Audrey Brown

Members of the Black History Month Program Committee in West African costume. (L-R) Alton Fleming, Kenneth Young, Tangita Adams, Mcbezaji Axum, Audrey Brown, and Vallie Bray.

sional Education, Howard University, College of Liberal Arts, discussed African cuisine, and immediately following the performance, a number of West African dishes were served. The occasion proved to be both festive and entertaining.

--Audrey Brown, Library Technician,
Indexing Branch, NAL

PROGRAM ON BLACKS IN SCIENCE

On Wednesday, April 13, 1988, the National Agricultural Library and the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center cosponsored the second of two major Black History Month programs. Dr. Ivan Van Sertima, Professor of African Studies at Rutgers University, was guest speaker. A noted literary critic, linguist, anthropologist, and author, Dr. Van Sertima spoke with a great deal of charisma for about an hour on the most fascinating subject, "Blacks in Science: Ancient and Modern." The talk, based on Dr. Van Sertima's book by the same name, was an exciting educational experience for everyone in the audience, even for those who have read the book, and featured such illuminating topics as pre-Steel Age steel-smelting in Africa, astronomy, navigation, and other sciences in ancient African civilizations, and noted historical figures among black scientists, both ancient and modern. It also exposed some major biases, inaccuracies, and distortions of the historical record relating to black culture and civilization. In an academic setting this talk would have been called a lecture, but this was devoid of the pejorative connotations of the word: most of the audience left the hall in a state of elation.

Also on the program were Ms. Shelly Anderson, Soloist with the Howard University Gospel Choir, who sang three selections *a cappella*; Rev. Roy Pea (an ARS employee), who gave the invocation; Dr. K. Darwin Murrell, Associate Area Director, Beltsville Area of ARS, who made opening

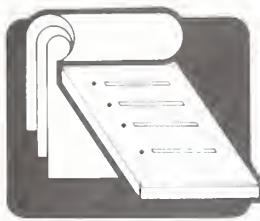
remarks; Samuel T. Waters, Associate Director, NAL, who made closing remarks; Mr. Mcbezaji Axum, Master of Ceremonies; and Alton Fleming of ARS representing the program committee, who made the acknowledgements. A reception with refreshments followed the program.

-- Joseph N. Swab



photo: J. Swab

Dr. Ivan Van Sertima autographs a copy of his book, "Blacks in Science," for Vallie Bray, an ARS Federal Women's Program Coordinator.



NEW SERIALS RECEIVED AT NAL

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ISIS--ONLINE CATALOG

Since ALIN's last update on ISIS (Integrated System for Information Services), a lot of work has gone into the development of the system and its various subsystems.

In early July Virginia Tech Library Systems (VTLS) will be loading NAL's data at its Blacksburg headquarters, and will be restoring the data to NAL's system by the end of the summer. The loading of data, creation of indexes, and preparation of tapes for reloading at NAL will be completed, and NAL's online catalog will be operational at that time. The online catalog will contain all cataloging records that are in AGRICOLA from January 1966 through May 1987; NAL will continue to load data thereafter until all information is current. Updates on the various subsystems will be issued when they are ready for implementation.



photo: D. Starr

(L-R)William Feidt, Head, Library Automation Branch, Roberta Rand, ISIS Coordinator, and Carl Lee, VTLS, at a recent meeting on ISIS implementation.



photo: D. Starr

The ISIS Online User Advisory Group: (L-R standing) Barbara Thompson, Cataloging; Patricia Krug, Reference; Ruth Wertman, Acquisitions/Serials; Janet Edmonds, Information Centers; Lee Decker, Special Services; Martha Hood, Indexing; Susan Chapman, Lending; and Veronica Perkins, Acquisitions/Serials; (seated) Veronica Lefebvre, Lending; Kathleen Dougherty, Cataloging; Roberta Rand, and Martha Feldman, Library Automation.



NEW BIBLIOGRAPHIES

QUICK BIBLIOGRAPHIES

The bibliographies in this series are primarily computerized online as batch bibliographies emanating from searches performed by the NAL Public Services Division Staff in response to customer requests. Searches are selected for inclusion based on the currency of the topic, interest among clientele, and probable value to a larger audience. Unless otherwise specified, citations are from AGRICOLA. Revisions or updates will be renumbered and reannounced. Only one copy of a title will be sent; however, requesters may make copies. To request a copy of a *Quick Bibliography*, circle the desired title(s) below and send your request with a self-addressed label to:

Reference Branch, Room 111
National Agricultural Library
Beltsville, MD 20705

Q.B.--88-51. Farmland Preservation, 1979-1987. 142 citations; English only. Prepared by Jayne MacLean. April 1988.

Q.B.--88-52. Use of Computers for Farm Management, 1985-1987. 227 citations; English only. Prepared by Lee Decker. April 1988.

Q.B.--88-53. Shiitake: Cultivated Mushroom, 1970-1987. 198 citations; languages: none excluded. Prepared by Jerry Rafats. April 1988. Updates 86-28.

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SPECIAL REFERENCE BRIEFS

S.R.B.--88-05. Childhood Obesity. Prepared by Dr. Myron Winick. April 1988.

S.R.B.--88-06. Childhood Antecedents to Adult Coronary Artery Diseases. Prepared by Dr. Myron Winick. April 1988.

S.R.B.--88-07. Fluid Drilling and Soil Conditioning Using Hydrophilic Polymers. Prepared by Kerryn A. Brandt. May 1988.

S.R.B.--88-08. Competitiveness of U.S. Agriculture in World Trade. Prepared by Mary E. Lassanyi. May 1988.

Request S.R.B.'s in the same manner as Q.B.'s.



PUBLICATIONS
EXCHANGE

SURPLUS PUBLICATIONS

The National Agricultural Library will make available the following surplus publications to any interested organization that regularly sends free publications to NAL, including most Federal, land-grant, and agricultural research institutions as well as many others. Foreign institutions will need to provide a U.S. mailing address or make other special arrangements with U.S. sources for shipment of material. Listed titles may be requested up to six months following announcement.

If interested, please enclose an addressed label with your request and write to:

National Agricultural Library
Attn: Gift and Exchange/RF, Room 002
Beltsville, MD 20705

Or call Ruth Finnblade, (301) 344-1207.

Annals of Applied Biology. Vol. 23-81, 1936-75.

Bulletin of the Torrey Botanical Club. Vols. 89-106, 1962-79.

Canadian Journal of Botany. Vols. 38-53, 1960-75.

Congressional Quarterly Weekly Report. Jan. 3, 1981-March 10, 1984.

Heredity. Vols. 21-43, 1966-79.

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Journal of Farm Economics. Vols. 17-48, 1935-66.

Journal of Nutrition. Vols. 97, 100-106, 108-113, 115-117, 1970-87.

Lipids. Vol. 11-22, 1976-87.

Nature. Vols. 185-258, 1960-75.

Phytomorphology. Vols. 16-29, 1966-79.

Plant Physiology. Vols. 13-63, 1938-79.

SPSE HOLDS MEETING AT NAL



William Hauser of NAL Special Collections (at the projection console) demonstrates the Forest Service Photographs laser video disk to members of the Washington Chapter of the SPSE. Photo: J. Swab.

SERIAL GAPS

The National Agricultural Library identifies gaps in the national collection through collection maintenance activities and patron requests. We appreciate your donation of the following publications needed to complete collections. If you have questions, call Ruth Finnblade, Gift and Exchange Program, (301) 344-1207.

Send items to:

*National Agricultural Library
Gift and Exchange Program/RF, Room 002G
Beltsville, MD 20705*

Annual Report. CRIFF (Cooperative Research in Forest Fertilization). 1976, 1979, 1980, 1981.

Annual Report. Panama Commission. Washington, DC. 1985/86 to date.

Biochemical Pharmacology. Vol. 35 to date.

CGIAR Study Paper. 1986 (17-18).

Effect of Philippine Economic Development on Demand for United States Agricultural Products. Vols. 2 and 5.

International Agrophysics. Vol. 1 (2-4), 1985.

Journal of the Rio Grande Valley Horticultural Society. Vol. 39, 1986 and Vol. 40, 1987.

Pediatrics. Vol. 77 (1-6), 1986; Vol. 78 (1), 1986; Vols. 79-80, 1987.

Wind Power Digest. 1986 (28).



(L-R) Richard Myers, President, Washington Chapter and Senior Appraiser of the Military Archives Division of the National Archives; Ernest Tauber, photographic contractor; and Alan Fusonie, Head, Special Collections, NAL. Photo: J. Swab.



SPSE members gather in the NAL Rare Books Reading Room prior to dinner and their meeting. Photo: J. Swab.





ASSOCIATES NAL, INC.

ENDOWMENT

From time to time in the past there have been proposals for the Associates of the National Agricultural Library, Inc., to have some type of fund into which persons could make contributions in honor of worthy causes, in honor of individuals to be recognized in a special way, in support of the Associates in a manner which would be noteworthy and recognizable, or in memory of deceased staff or Associates members. Others have wished to make the Associates a beneficiary of life insurance, or to make the Associates the recipient of a bequest in their wills.

At the 1987 annual meeting the Board of Directors of the Associates proposed, and the membership voted unanimously to establish an Endowment for the purpose of accepting gifts for special purposes. Accounts have been established in the N.A.R.C. Federal Credit Union into which the Associates will deposit monetary gifts. The Board of Directors will serve as the trustees of the Endowment. Disbursements from the Endowment must be formally proposed, considered, and approved in accordance with such guidelines as the Board finds necessary. Such proposals must benefit the National Agricultural Library.

The Associates will keep records of donations and the purposes for which they were made. The Board has initiated the Endowment with a substantial contribution from the current treasury, in the form of Certificates of Deposit. Endowment funds will be maintained separately from the current operating account and the Acquisitions Fund (also called the "rare book fund").

Persons wishing to contribute to the Endowment (or to the Acquisitions Fund) may do so by making their contributions payable to the **Associates of NAL Endowment**, or **Associates of NAL Acquisitions Fund**, and send them to the following address.

Or contact:

Associates of NAL, Inc.
National Agricultural Library, Room 203
10301 Baltimore Boulevard
Beltsville, Maryland 20705

Or call (301) 344-3778.

ANNUAL MEETING

The 1988 Annual Meeting of the Associates of NAL, Inc., will be held in September. Tentative arrangements are dependent on confirming a speaker for a specific date. Final plans will be announced by the end of June.

ANNUAL AWARDS NOMINATIONS OPEN

The Associates of the National Agricultural Library, Inc., is currently accepting nominations for outstanding individuals in the agricultural library community. Special awards in three categories will be presented at the organization's annual meeting in September 1988. The three awards categories are:

(1) **PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD** for published contributions to library literature or meritorious accomplishment in the library science field. Eligibility: Open to scientists, researchers, librarians, and members of professional societies, businesses, and the Associates NAL.

(2) **CITATION OF SPECIAL RECOGNITION** for special achievement and/or service given to the National Agricultural Library, to other agricultural libraries, or significant achievements leading to the advancement of the library science field. Eligibility: Open to concerned individuals, organizations, and businesses in the agricultural field, NAL staff, and members of the Associates NAL.

(3) **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD** recognizes and encourages meritorious performance exceeding job requirements. Eligibility: Open to all members of the National Agricultural Library staff.

ALL NOMINATIONS should be mailed no later than July 31, 1988, to Mary Silva, Recording Secretary, Associates of NAL, Inc., National Agricultural Library, Room 200, Beltsville, MD 20705, who will forward them to the Awards Committee. Each nomination should include the following information: (1) Name of the award for which the candidate is proposed, (2) a statement describing the basis of the nomination, and (3) where appropriate, a bibliography supporting the nomination.

WE WANT YOU AS MEMBERS! WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

You can help ensure the National Agricultural Library's continued excellence by:

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- Discounts on Associates' sales items.

For additional information contact:

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AGRICULTURE DATEBOOK

June 19-22, 1988: "The International Herb Growers and Marketers Association's Third Annual Conference and Trade Show," at Baton Rouge, LA. Contact: IHGMA, P.O. Box 281, Silver Springs, PA 17575. Telephone (717) 684-9756.

June 19-June 23: International Symposium on Water Quality Modeling of Agricultural Non-Point Sources. Logan, Utah; Utah State University. Contact: Martha B. Steinbock, 202-653-7860.

June 19-June 24: American Association of Feed Microscopists 36th Annual Meeting. Bloomington, Minnesota; Thunderbird Motel. Contact: Janet Windsor, AAFM, 1118 Apple Dr., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055.

June 20: Institute of Food Technologists Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA. Contact: IFT, 312-782-8424.

June 20: Water Quality Symposium: Logan, Utah. Contact: 202-447-6158.

June 21-June 23: Biennial National Poultry Improvement Plan Conference. Portland, Maine; Sonesta International Hotel. Contact: USDA, APHIS, Veterinary Services, Rm. 848, Federal Bldg., Hyattsville, MD 20782.

June 22-June 25: 21st Annual Meeting of the Society for Nutrition Education. Toronto, Canada; Royal York Hotel. Theme: "Nutrition in the Marketplace". Contact: SNE Service Center, 303-831-6338.

June 26-July 1: Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies Annual Meeting. Seattle, Washington. Contact: AOSCA, Raleigh, NC, 919-737-2851.

June 27: Rural Development Field Hearing. Las Cruces, New Mexico. Contact: 202-447-4581.

June 28-June 29: Holstein Association Annual Meeting. San Diego, California. Contact: Holstein, Assn., Brat-

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tleboro, VT, 802-254-4551.

June 28-July 4: 6th Royal Show International Symposium. Stoneleigh, England. Contact: Sadie Taylor, Symposium Administrator, Royal Agricultural Society of England, National Agricultural Centre, Stoneleigh, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, England CV8 2LZ.

June 29-July 1: Agricultural Products Quality Conference. St. Louis, MO; Adam's Mark Hotel. Theme: "Agricultural Products Quality and Competitiveness: Now & Future". Contact: Vivian Culp-Mann, 202-447-8366.

June 29-July 2: The American Jersey Cattle Club Annual Meeting. Portland, Maine. Contact: 614-861-3636.

July 1: National Management of Soil Conservation Service State Resource Conservationists. Annapolis, Maryland. Contact: 202-447-4525.

July 6-July 8: Agri-Tech '88, Annual Agriculture Showcase Event. Blacksburg, Virginia; Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Contact: Susan Trulove, 703-961-5863.

July 9-July 10: Cooperative Communicators' Association (CCA) Annual Institute. Washington, D.C.; J.W. Marriott Hotel. Contact: Donna Foster, Tennessee Farmers Cooperative, P.O. Box 3003, LaVergne, TN 37086.

July 10-July 12: National Turkey Federation Summer Meeting. Des Moines, Iowa; Adventureland Inn. Contact: NTF, 703-435-7206.

July 12-July 14: National Broiler Council Marketing Seminar. Monterey, California; Hyatt Regency. Contact: NBC, 202-296-2622.

July 15-July 16: Association of Cottonseed Products Dealers 10th Annual Meeting. Copper Mountain, Colorado; Copper Mountain Resort. Contact: Elmer E. Short, Box 17526, Memphis, TN 38187-0526.

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SPSE MEETS AT NAL



photo: J. Swab

NAL's 14th Floor Balcony is a wonderful place to have receptions, luncheons, parties, and other special events as the Washington Chapter of the Society for Imaging Science and Technology discovered at a catered buffet dinner prior to its recent meeting here. When the members arrived, the beautiful views of the Agricultural Research Center and the Maryland suburbs peeking through the wooded countryside were bathed in the warm glow of late afternoon sunlight. By the time the diners sat down to eat, night had snuffed out the sun, revealing a wonderland of lights from those same suburbs and their network of partially obscured roads and highways, and rivaling the view from any restaurant in the sky in major cities. For a photo story on the SPSE's meeting, see page 17.

AGRICULTURAL LIBRARIES
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Idalia Acosta, New Serials Editor.

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Daniel Starr, Photographer.

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